MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram cum Shencotta*) : Will they be pleased to ascertain it ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Absolutely no objection to do it.

Statement, by caste, of persons appointed by the present Account Officer.

331. **MR. TRIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, showing the number and names of the persons now in service appointed by Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai, the present Account Officer and *ex-officio* Financial Secretary to Government, since he took charge of that post till the 15th of Mithunam 1107, as also the respective salary drawn by each person ?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : The statement* required by the member is laid on the table.

Income from the sale of timber during 1100-1107.

332. **MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the net income by the sale of timber effected from 1100 to the end of Mithunam 1107 ;

(*b*) the cost of felling, sawing and transporting timber to the depots every year from 1103 to 1107 ; and

(*c*) whether they realise any income from the timber sawn away in reducing the logs to regular sizes ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) *Year*		*Amount.* Rs.
1100	...	6,56,267
1101	...	7,08,802
1102	...	7,82,265
1103	...	8,12,302
1104	...	8,24,833
1105	...	9,39,377
1106	...	6,92,240
1107 (till the end of Mithunam)	...	4,18,933

(*b*) *Year*		Total expenditure incurred under felling, sawing and transporting timber to the depots. *Amount.* Rs.
1103	...	4,42,639
1104	...	4,97,873
1105	...	4,91,751
1106	...	5,17,079
1107 (up to the end of Mithunam)	...	3,69,883

*Vide Appendix II—page vii.

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[Mr. A. Kumara Pillai.]

(c) All useful portions of logs which would be saleable in the nearest market are turned to account as far as possible.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): With regard to part (a), may I know whether the net income given on account of the sale of timber includes the value of timber sawn away in the sizing of the good logs?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): For working down and sawing Rs. 4,18,933 worth of timber (sold till Mithunam 1107) the Rs. 3,69,883 has been spent. In view of the small margin of profit which the Government are able to make by the sale of timber, may I know whether the Government will stop the sale of timber for some-time till the price of timber improves?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The cost of transport and sawing, given in the answer, includes also the cost of timber which had been worked down prior to 1107.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): The sale proceeds given also include those of timber worked down in the previous year, I suppose?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): So, the profit made is very small. Therefore, why not they stop the sale of timber till the price of timber improves?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): But the timber will deteriorate.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): My point is this. The expenses for working down timber from the forests and for sawing and sizing the timber remains in the same old high level, whereas the price of timber has gone down very much. Therefore, will it not be better to stop cutting down timber, if I may say so, from the forests, for purposes of sale, till economic conditions improve and the price of timber goes up to its former level?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The Conservator will be asked about it.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether there was an informal conference of Divisional Forest Officers with regard to this question?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Will the Government call for that information and place on the table recommendations of the Divisional Forest Officers on this particular question?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Government will ask the Conservator about it.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): The answer to part (c) is, "All useful portions of logs which would be saleable in the nearest

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market are turned to account as far as possible." May I know under what receipt head the item is included ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : The receipts on account of sale of timber.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : May I remind the member that he told me a little while ago that it did not include the value of portions of logs sawn away ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : I was then referring to absolutely useless chips which are, of course, thrown away ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : Under what item of receipts do they include the value of useful portions of timber sawn away ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Under the receipts on account of sale of timber

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : Is the member aware that there are in the forests large quantities of such timber lying without being sold or utilised ?

PRESIDENT : That is not a supplementary question.

Vacancies of clerks' post in the Women's branch of the Education Department.

333. **MRS. ANNA CHANDI** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of vacancies of clerks' posts that arose in the Women's branch of the Education Department since Karkatakam 1106 ; and

(*b*) the number of ladies appointed to fill these vacancies ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) 10.

(*b*) 5.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*) : May I know where these vacancies occurred ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have no information.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*) : May I know why five of them were filled up by men ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Apparently, the Assistant Inspectresses or Inspectress preferred men.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*) : May I know whether qualified women had applied ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have no information.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*) : May I remind the member of the answer given to me by the Director of Public Instruction to a question put by me at the last session, to the effect that there is a women's branch of the department and all vacancies there would be filled by women ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not remember.

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